



CADENZA

The Official Newsletter of The United States Air Force Band ★ Washington, DC

Colonel Lowell E. Graham COMMANDER & CONDUCTOR

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1999

The United States Air Force Band performs for the Kennedy Center Honors

The United States Air Force Band and Honor Guard joined approximately 2,200 guests including President and Mrs. Clinton, cabinet members and Hollywood celebrities for the Kennedy Center Honors program taped at The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. on December 6, 1998 for broadcast in late December. This year's honorees included Bill Cosby, composer/lyricist team John Kander and Fred Ebb, Willie Nelson, conductor/composer Andre Previn, and actress/U.S. Ambassador Shirley Temple Black.

The Band and Honor Guard presented "An American Tribute" to Ms. Black. During the opening of the sequence, The Ceremonial Brass and members of The Airmen of Note marched onto center stage playing a patriotic medley as 56 ceremonial guardsmen descended down the aisles and onto the stage carrying

America's state and territorial flags. They were also part of the show's rousing finale.

A long-time friend of The Band, Shirley Temple Black was a featured guest on the Guest Artist Series. The Band also appeared with her years back on "The Mike Douglas Show."

It was at Ms. Black's specific request that The Air Force Band perform on the Kennedy Center Honors. We were delighted to join in a salute to someone like her who has been such a staunch supporter of The Band and the Air Force. It was a small way of saying "thanks." Ms. Black was honored for her work as a childhood actress and star of television and movies, as well as for her efforts as the United States Ambassador to Ghana and Czechoslovakia.

—CMSgt Dana Steinhauser

National Christmas Tree Lighting

The United States Air Force Band was the premier service band for the 75th Anniversary National Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, hosted by President and Mrs. Clinton. The Band, under the direction of Colonel Lowell E. Graham, provided pre-ceremonial music as well as accompanying featured artists Tony Bennett, Jose Feliciano and Leona Mitchell.

Other guest artists included NBC TODAY Show's Al Roker as Santa Claus, cast members from "Cats," Washington's Paul Hill Chorale, and "Bear" from Jim Henson's Emmy-nominated series "Bear in the Big Blue House."

The National Christmas Tree, a stately 40-foot Colorado Blue Spruce, is illuminated with more than 100,000 lights and is the focal point for the 1998 Pageant of Peace on the Ellipse in Washington, D.C. south of the White House. The pageant focuses on the sanctity of the holiday season and the importance of peace in our families, nation and the world.

33rd Annual Guest Artist Series

Here we are again at the beginning of a new year. With that, The United States Air Force Band is looking forward to February and March, when we will present what has become a Washington, D.C. tradition: the Guest Artist Series at DAR Constitution Hall. As in previous years, The Band will present concerts at 3 p.m. every Sunday in February and March, with the exception of March 14.

Historic DAR Constitution Hall is located on 18th Street between C and D Streets, NW in downtown Washington. We are all excited by the artists for this year's series, which will include performances by Keiko Matsui, Melba Moore and Nell Carter, among others. At the time of the newsletter publication, specific concert information was not finalized. Please call our Concert Line at (202) 767-5658 for the latest updates.